

**MANSEF**  
Maryland Association of Nonpublic Special Education Facilities  
[www.mansef.org](http://www.mansef.org)

**WHO THEY ARE**

MANSEF is a non-profit association of special education schools which are approved by the Maryland State Department of Education, created to promote quality services for children and youth with disabilities. They serve more than 3,000 students between 2 and 21 years of age. Visit the website to see the WHAT THEY DO AND WHO THEY SERVE.

**FRIENDS of MANSEF**

The Friends of MANSEF serves in an advisory capacity to the MANSEF Board of Directors for two purposes: (1) to address matters of family involvement and communication, and (2) to act as a core group of advocates to help educate government leaders, policy makers and members of the general public about the educational needs of children with disabilities.

**FAMILY CONNECTIONS**

MANSEF's "FAMILY CONNECTIONS" is a family organization that promotes working together in a positive way to create positive outcomes for our children. Essentially, Family Connections will assist all of us (families, school personnel, and other interested parties) in making the lives of children and their families better in the area of access, voice and empowerment, when it comes to navigating through the system of care component of education.

**Depending upon your availability, there are several ways you can participate:**

1. **Get on the mailing list.** Once we have your contact information we will send you news and information relating to a variety of topics focusing on your efforts to get your child the most appropriate educational environment and cover the topics of interest.
2. **Meet other family members.** We want to respond to your need to connect with other family members who are on a similar journey as you...caring for a child with special needs. Whether your journey is a short term jaunt or a long term excursion, we know the benefits of networking with others who can appreciate you joys and challenges because they are experiencing similar ones.
3. **Training.** Through the efforts of many fantastic advocates for children, family members now have the clout to affect change, require appropriate services and expect positive outcomes for their child with special needs throughout the Maryland system of care, of which Education is a crucial component.

For more information, contact Dorie Flynn, 410-938-4413. We want to hear from you!